

Trends in Narcan Use in King County, 2014

A Report from the King County EMS Medical QI Section

Prepared by Dmitry Sharkov and Sofia Husain

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Background: Narcan (generic name: Naloxone) is an opioid antagonist that is used especially in the case of an overdose. It reverses the depression of the central nervous system, respiratory system, and hypotension caused by opioids. This report shows the areas in King County where paramedics have administered Narcan.

Results: Based on preliminary 2014 data, King County paramedics administered Narcan/naloxone to 455 patients, which is less than 0.4% of all EMS calls, from Jan 1, 2014 to Dec. 31, 2014. The median age of these patients was 40 years (mean was 42.9 years) and 66% of patients were male.

Figure 1. Naloxone/Narcan administration per 10,000 EMS calls in King County, 2014

